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# Q&A

**Should a football program be developed at UTPA?**

Page 3



## THURSDAY

**FEBRUARY 3, 2000**

### An Inside Look:

- Opinion .....2
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- Calendar .....9
- Athlete Lea Valdez honored ....12

The Student Newspaper of The University of Texas-Pan American

### NEWS

■ The Anthropology Club, in conjunction with the Center for International Studies and the International Women's Board, is hosting two lectures by Guven Arsebuk, professor of anthropology at the University of Istanbul. Arsebuk will lecture on the "Excavation at a Lower Paleolithic Cave in Western Turkey: Yirimurgaz Cave" at noon today in SBSC 101 at UTPA, and on "The Earliest Prehistory of Turkey: A Survey of Paleolithic and Neolithic Periods" at 7:30 p.m. today in the Media Theater.

### FEATURES

■ The horror Scream 3 comes to theaters this weekend. Will Sydney (Neve Campbell) finally meet her doom?

■ Lost Souls, a suspense-thriller starring Wynona Ryder, will premiere this weekend at Valley theaters.

### SPORTS

■ Betting on college and amateur sports would be illegal anywhere in the United States under a bill introduced to Congress by Sen. Sam Brownback Tuesday. If approved, the measure would outlaw any bet placed on a high school, college or Olympic sporting event — including Nevada's legal sports-betting industry. Proponents hope a ban will curb point-shaving and problem gambling on college campuses. Opponents argue the bill would do no good and might actually hinder law enforcement efforts.

## Student information given to companies

**Yvette Solis**  
The Pan American

### Creditors use information to boost sales among those enrolled at UTPA

Under the Family Rights and Privacy Act, UTPA is required to provide public information about students to whoever requests it.

Data such as a student's name, address, home phone and schedule are considered public information and can be given out

to anyone requesting the information, including credit card companies.

"There are several universities that sell students' information to credit card companies, but UTPA only charges the cost of labor and

time it takes to generate the information," said David Zuniga, director of admissions and records. "We can't afford to spend the school's money in providing companies with information free-of-charge so we charge them the

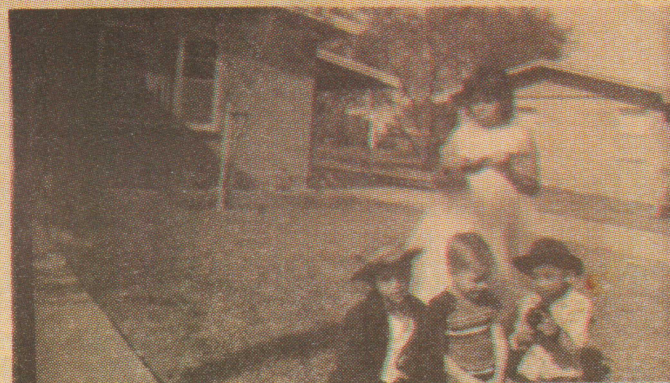
cost and the fee sometimes deters several companies from wanting students' information at all."

Credit card companies' main target groups are college students.

The Family Rights and Privacy Act gives credit card companies more access to reach students — potential customers. Companies use

See **INFORMATION**, page 5

### FEATURE STORY



— Miguel Liscano Sr., bottom right, poses with his friends in the front lawn of the home in McAllen where he grew up in this December 1956 photo. Today Liscano still lives in the same home and is now raising a family of his own.



— Miguel Liscano Sr. and his friend pretend to be Wild West outlaws in December 1956.

## Home Raised

A UTPA student recalls how he grew up in the same house his father lived as a child and how the times have changed.

Page 6



By Miguel Liscano, Jr.

The Pan American

## Campus celebrates Black heritage

**Melissa Soto**  
The Pan American

February marks the celebration of African-American heritage throughout schools and libraries around the country. Black History Month, recognized by some Americans since 1926, was not observed official by the nation until two years ago.

"It was a proclamation made by the president of the United States, Bill Clinton, in 1998 which made it an officially celebrated holiday," said Beverly Friddle, president of the Rio Grande Valley NAACP. "President Clinton confirmed it by saying that 'each year during February we would focus on a particular aspect of the African-American history to broaden our knowledge and deepen our appreciation of countless contributions African-Americans have made to

See **HERITAGE**, page 4



# February 3

## 2000



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THE PAN AMERICAN is an official publication of The University of Texas-Pan American and is produced in the Communication Department. Views presented are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the university administration.

### Letters policy

Letters to the editor must include your name, address, and phone number. They will be printed on a space available basis.

# Opinion

letters ■ editorials

STAR TRIBUNE  
SOCK



## Letters To The Editor

### LULAC responds to student's accusations

#### To the editor:

Last week, I was appalled to read a letter to the editor that was sent in by an obviously misinformed student on January 25. For the record, I would like to start off by letting my fellow students know that their student fees have not been used to financially support student organizations at the University of Texas-Pan American, such as University-LULAC.

As president of University-LULAC, I would like to make it known to the student body that any financial support that this organization has raised by on campus activities such as bake sales and by donations from our state and national LULAC headquarters.

It is also imperative that Mr. Szumny know the importance of having Hispanic organizations on campus.

Here at UTPA, the majority of the student body is Mexican-American.

The main purpose of Hispanic organizations on campus is so that Latinos are made aware that they have an ancestral culture which is still vibrant and is a source of pride for the Latino/Hispanic community.

Existence of micro cultures within the American macro cultures have existed since the founding of this country.

Hispanic organizations on campus also give students a chance to give back to their community through volunteer work, a helping hand that helps improve the educational lining condition of the people.

Student organizations, such as University-LULAC, are not of a radical nature and do not belittle or degrade other cultures, nor do we push our beliefs on students who do not share our political democratic ideologies.

A fundamental democratic right in this country of ours is the right to form university

student organizations that helps raise awareness for basic freedom, equality and equity rights for all Americans.

I understand the concern that Mr. Szumny had about where his student fees were going to, but I can assure Mr. Szumny that his student fees are not supporting on-campus student organizations such as University-LULAC.

— Araceli A. Perez,  
president of  
University-LULAC

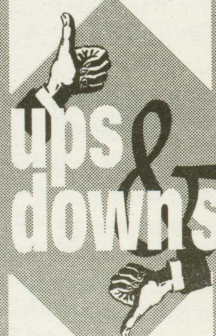
### Corrections

A photo outline for the article "Band Heightens Atmosphere at Basketball Games" in the January 27 edition of *The Pan American* incorrectly identified band member Madeline Salinas as Melissa Salinas.

The *Pan American* regrets the error.

- Thumbs up to Lea Valdez who was named Independent Women's Basketball Player of the Week.

- Thumbs up to caffeine.



- Thumbs down to pigeons.

- Thumbs down to mud puddles.

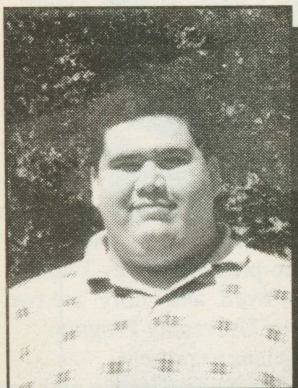
- Thumbs down to not building a movie theater across from UTPA.



# Q&A

Should a football program be developed at UTPA?

— Jessica Urban



**Jorge Elizondo**  
Senior  
Education

Yes. It will help bring in additional income and attract more students to the university. It will also entice more students to stay in the Rio Grande Valley and complete their education at UTPA.

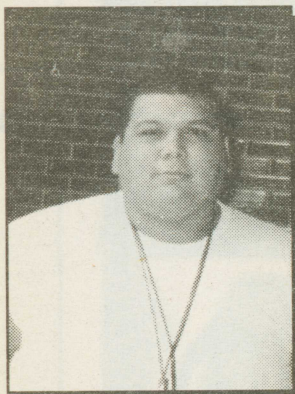
**Melissa Laurel**  
Junior  
Education

Yes. A football team would be a good idea because it would develop more school spirit. It would bring more distinction to the university in terms of identifying it among other universities.



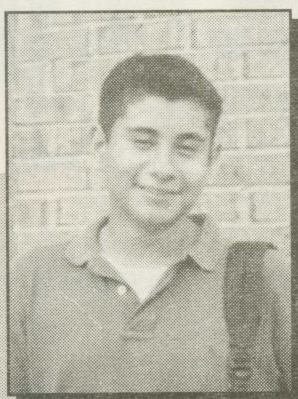
**Frank Martinez**  
Junior  
Math

Yes. I think football would bring more income to both the university and the city of Edinburg because the crowds attending the games will probably want to celebrate after a game.



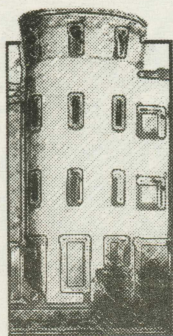
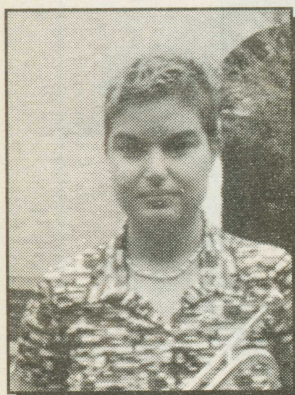
**Juan Pablo**  
Freshman  
Health Sciences

Yes. Football would be good because more people will hear about this university. It would make things more interesting on campus with football games, and would make students be proud to be called Broncs.



**Madeline Salinas**  
Junior  
Fine Arts

Yes. I miss high school football where we had marching band and pep rallies. I think it would be good for the school to invest the students' money into a football team.



# Campus

news briefs

## Students gather for voter registration

**H. Farwa Naqvi**  
The Pan American

The University Program Board set up a table outside the cafeteria Tuesday in order to give students and faculty an opportunity to register to vote.

According to UPB member Sara Sanchez, roughly 30 people registered. "We think that was a really good outcome because the majority had already registered," said Sanchez.

"I personally wasn't expecting any particular number, I just wanted people to sign," said Fabiola Leal, vice president of administrative affairs for UPB, who believes that the project is a good idea. "Sometimes [students] don't have time to register, so bringing it to them would be easier for them," said Leal.

UPB is planning to sponsor another voter registration February 11 for those who missed the first registration.

**"Sometimes [students] don't have time to register, so bringing it to them would be easier."**

— Fabiola Leal,  
vice president of administrative affairs for UPB

**"**

## Professor to speak on communication disorders

**Melissa Soto**  
The Pan American

Li-Rong Lilly Cheng, a professor from San Diego State University, will discuss opportunities to continue education in multi-cultural and multi-linguistic communities during a conference titled "Intervention in the 21st Century: Meeting the Challenges of a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse World" Saturday. The conference will be sponsored by the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Cheng, the keynote speaker, is the professor of speech language-pathology in the Department of Communicative Disorders at San Diego State University.

"She is an internationally-known speaker in multi-culturally and multi-linguistic issues," said Bailey Wang, associate professor of communication sciences and disorders.

The conference will be held in auditorium, room 1.300, of the Engineering Building from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

"What we had planned is actually a two-day event with Saturday opened to the public," Wang said. "On Friday we will run an informal presentation/interaction with our department graduate students."

The full-time student registration fee will be \$20. For the public, a \$60 regular registration fee pays for attendance, a hand-out, and a

UTPA goodie bag.

The conference will also offer a special bonus for professionals.

"Under the Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association we will be offering 5.5 continuing education units for speech-language pathologists," Wang said. "We will also offer the certificate of attendance for the educators, teachers and bilingual professionals, as well as for the whole community, not just the Valley."

The annual conference committee sent out 1,600 invitations to speech-language pathologists, educators and administrators throughout the Valley, San Antonio and Corpus Christi.

"We expect to have more on-site registration," Wang said.

## Project sends books to developing countries

**H. Farwa Naqvi**  
The Pan American

The Renaissance Project, with the help of oil giant Chevron, will send a shipment of 3,000 books to Nigeria in March. The project's goal is to collect and ship textbooks to developing countries.

The project, which is housed in the UTPA Annex building, in Edinburg, was founded by William Strong, associate professor of speech communication.

Strong began his efforts in 1993 after returning from Nigeria, where he was teaching on a Fulbright Scholarship.

"My students were very poor and could not afford textbooks. When I returned to the States I thought the best thing I could do for them was send them books," Strong said.

Upon returning, Strong set up a website to reach out to professors and institutions across the country asking for donations. "Slowly the word got out and books started

coming from all over.

The first large shipment, which was sent to Nigeria in the Spring of 1997, was sponsored by Shell Oil.

"We've done a lot of small shipments, but this is our second big one," Strong said.

Strong went on to say the biggest obstacle can be getting corporations to sponsor to transport the books.

Students who would like to help Strong's project are asked to donate used textbooks dated from 1993.



## Information

continued from page 1

media such as television, billboards, radio and magazines, to advertise to this age group.

"I think handing out this information to anyone who requests it is a violation of your privacy," said Melissa Escamilla, UTPA student. "Especially credit card companies, after like the 10th time they call I get tired and just give in."

College-age students are most prone to overcharging a credit card. Spending more than their budget allows and making consistent late payments increases their annual percentage rate.

Students who don't want their information to be released to outside entities have up to the 12th school day of the Fall and Spring semester or the first 4 class days of a summer term to make a written request for non-disclosure to UTPA.

A written request for a hold on information can be made to the Office of Admissions and Records. The following data can be made public: name; current and permanent address; e-mail address; date and place of birth; telephone number; major and minor; number of hours enrolled

“

**I think handing out this information to anyone who requests it is a violation of your privacy.**

—Melissa Escamilla,  
UTPA student

”

for current semester; classification; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members in an athletic team, dates of attendance; degrees and awards received; thesis/dissertation; and all previous educational agencies or institutions attended.

Information on the Family Rights and Privacy Act is available to all students in the third page of class schedules available each semester. Once a request is made by a student to withhold their information, the request will be honored by the university until the student wishes to release the information once again.



—Nelson Gonzalez/The Pan American

**Laura Alaniz & Sandra Davila brave the cold and drizzle that descended on unsuspecting Valley residents.**

According to David Zuniga, director of admissions, students who wish to withhold information will also be omitted from the positive effects of having directory information available.

"There have been occasions when companies wishing to award scholarships, call UTPA looking for students that meet certain criteria," said Zuniga. "If a student puts a hold on his or her information and could be a candidate for the scholarship, their information would not be given to the company and they would lose out on a great opportunity."

## Heritage

continued from page 1

the life of our nation.' "

In observance of Black History Month the university will be co-sponsoring several activities with NAACP. In addition to an art display in the library lobby, NAACP officers and members will be on campus.

"On Friday, February 11 the local NAACP will be present," said Travis Hughes, advisor of the University Program Board. "First they will sing the 'Black National Anthem,' then they're going to have a group of young women from a church in San Antonio who will do a presentation that will include reading Martin Luther King, Jr.'s 'I Have a Dream' speech. It's more of a performance, they will show pictures, read poetry and sing as well."

NAACP declared the February 14-18 college week as part of their African-American History Calendar.

"In the lunchroom area we will be setup, giving out brochures on NAACP and answering any

questions," said Fridie.

The Small Business Administration and the McAllen sector Border Patrol will co-sponsor a Black History Month program scheduled for February 17 at 10 a.m. in the UTPA Annex on Closner.

"The theme will be African-Americans in business and African-Americans who own their own businesses," Fridie said. "Our speaker will be the NAACP state 3rd vice-president Kyev Tatum."

The Word and Glory are two films the University Program Board plans to present.

"We're doing a movie night on February 25 on the west wall of the library," said Hughes. "We hang a big screen on the wall and everyone sits on the grass to watch the movies."

Activities begin today with a Caribbean steel drum band.

"The two members of Steel Away will be performing today from 11 to 12 inside the Snack Bar and at the library," said Hughes.

**THE PAN AMERICAN is now on the internet. Visit our web site at [www.panam.edu/dept/panamerican](http://www.panam.edu/dept/panamerican)**

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# GET INVOLVED

Would **you** like to help?

We need volunteers to assist students with  
Disabilities

Please Apply:  
OSPD

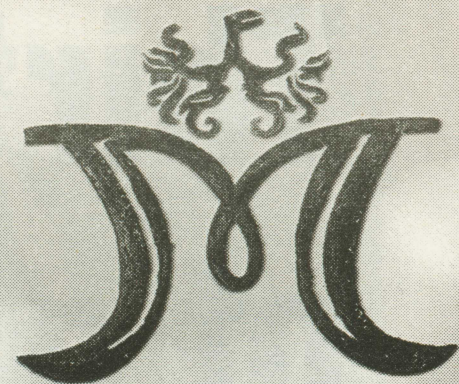
Office of Services for Persons with Disabilities  
Emilia Hall, Room 1.101  
316-7005

If special accommodations are needed please call  
OSPD 3 days in advance.



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# Thursday



College Night

No Cover with College I.D.

\$1 Longnecks

\$1 Well Drinks

-All Night!

# Friday

70's, 80's, & International

No Cover Before 10pm

# Saturday

Big DJ Alex & DJ OLI Mix it Up

Playing the best of Retro,

Top 40, International & Hip Hop

# Sunday

Teen Party

4pm to 10pm

design by [www.mindovermind.com](http://www.mindovermind.com)





# Thirty years of growth

Hidalgo County experiences changes in infrastructure, environment, health

**Eladio Jaimez**  
The Pan American

The McAllen Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which includes all of Hidalgo

County has become the second fastest growing MSA in the country. The U.S. Census

Bureau expects Hidalgo County to reach a population of 537,819 this year, which continues a growth rate that has risen by 400 percent in the last thirty years. But rapid population growth raises concerns over public health, the environment and infrastructure.

"In general it's the small things like waste disposal that can cause health problems," said Elena Bastida professor of sociology at UTPA. "Colonias don't have the infrastructure, and that is what we have to be very concerned about."

Bastida added that crowded quarters where two or more families live in a one house can lead to the spread of disease.

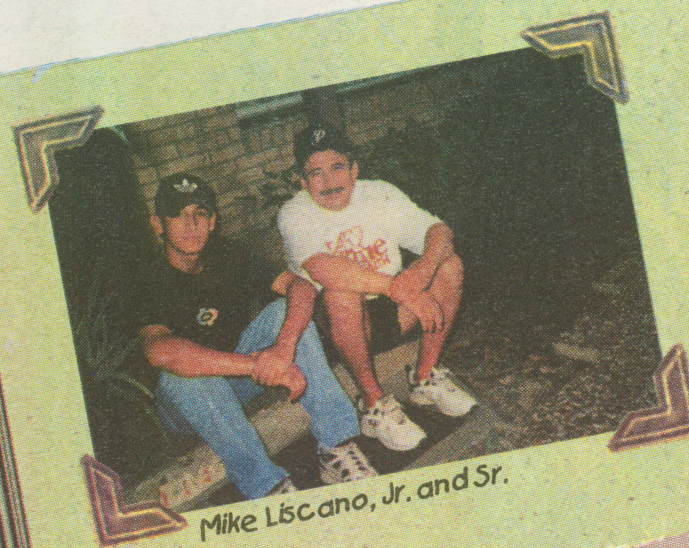
Population increases also affect infrastructure development. The augmentation of streets in McAllen, as an example, often fragments neighborhoods.

"We have to be careful with the roads we build and the way we expand" Bastida said. She noted that road expansion has its down side and up side. While neighborhoods can be fragmented, traffic flow may be increased, causing some members in the community to suffer while others benefit.

Along with meteoric population increase comes an amplification in what sociologists call population pressure, or the extent to which people begin to interfere with each other. Road rage, crime and congestion being but a few examples.

While a dramatic increase in population has its down side, like the Sierra Club's recent pronouncement that McAllen and the surrounding area had some of the worst urban sprawl in the country, Bastida maintains that there is a good side as well.

"With increased population we can have more exchange of ideas, and art and music," Bastida said.



Mike Liscano, Jr. and Sr.

## Still home

Life in Valley changed between generations of father and son

**Miguel Liscano, Jr.**  
The Pan American

My father and I grew up in the same house in McAllen, and in this fast-paced, everchanging world, that home is the only thing that has remained constant.

My father, Miguel Angel Liscano Sr., grew up in the '60s when teenagers received their draft cards, and rock 'n' roll was a voice for freedom. Despite these events, my father feels the youth of today face the same challenges.

"The worries that I had back then as a teenager, I feel that you have now, just in different ways," Liscano Sr. said.

He said back then you could get a new car for \$5,000 without a license. When he bought his first car in the mid '60s, he didn't know how to drive. He and his friends

would drag race on 10th street, just north of Nolana in McAllen because no one would catch them. Nowadays you can't go anywhere without seeing a police officer driving by.

When he was in elementary school, the school used to hold drills during which students would have to dive under their desk in case of a nuclear war. He said this worried people because the news showed missiles pointed at the United States and nothing could be done to change this.

Castro doesn't have warheads facing the U.S. any more, and the cold war is over. What we have to worry about now is where the USSR's nuclear arsenal went after the superpower collapsed.

He says the first time he thought of Vietnam was when he saw the news clips on television.

He and his friends ed to go, but they not drafted. Later he knew returned war missing arms legs, and my father thought, "Thank didn't go."

In contrast my friends had the military money for our country.

Our house first built in 1952.

At that time McAllen and farm city grew middle orchard build.

At that time thou flock the toa the se to

Miguel Liscano, Jr.





Liscano, Sr. (second from left) poses with friends in front yard in 1959. Changes in the neighborhood are made obvious when comparing the photos above and below.

40 years later, Jorge Hinojosa, Mike Liscano Jr., and Antonio Hinojosa pose outside of the house where he and his father grew up.



theft. "We used to sleep with the windows open, and we wouldn't bother locking the door to the car or even taking out the keys," Liscano Sr. said. "We were more worry-free. Nowadays with alarms in cars, bars on windows, and alarms inside the house, it's different."

When my dad was 19, his biggest worry was money. His first job was selling newspapers on the corner where he kept two cents for every paper he sold.

He and his friends would spend their weekends at the Alaskan in Mexico, but the best place to meet girls was school dances. He used to get his burgers from Mr. Q's and

the White Kitchen was the hot restaurant. The Alaskan is still there, but Mr. Q's seems to have turned into Whataburger.

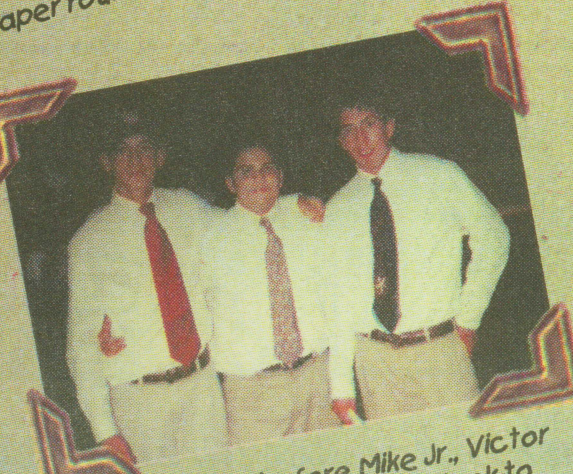
He says no one pushed higher education back then, so he took a semester of college, got bored and dropped out. Today it seems that everyone is stressing the importance of education.

When he was my age he felt indestructible, like nothing could hurt him. I feel the same way.

"You look at the past and you say, I remember when," Liscano Sr. said. "Like right now on your part, you'll be able to say, 'Hey, look at this new building going up,' and I can say, 'look at that building that went down.'"



Mike Liscano, Sr. fixes his bike for his paper route.



Like his father before Mike Jr., Victor Corral and Tony Manriquez look to the future on graduation day.



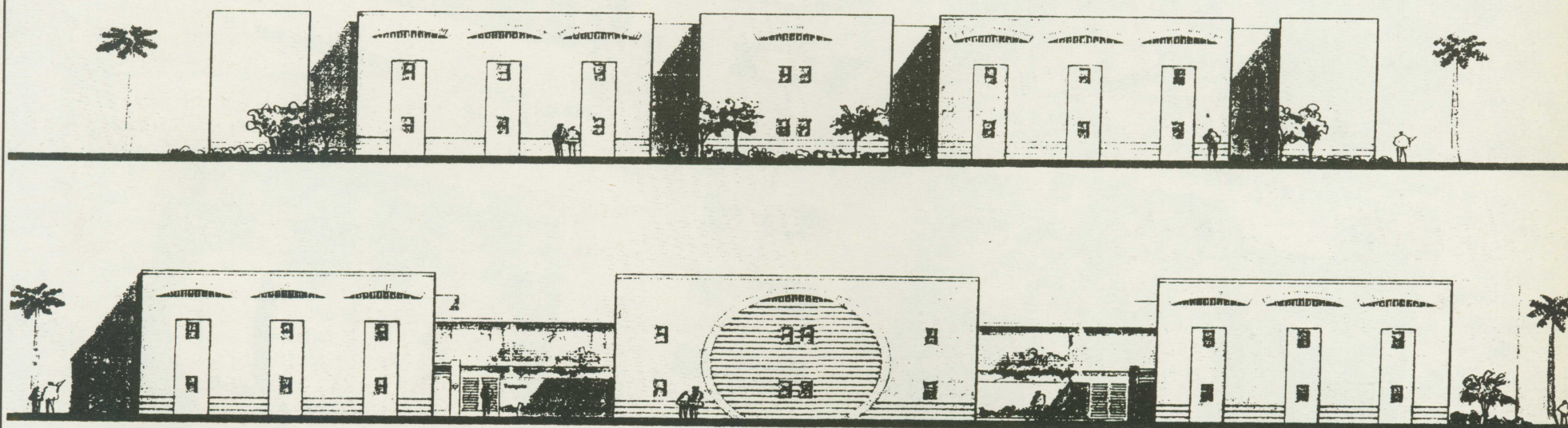
Mike Sr. poses with friends in anticipation of the future.



# Q: What's in a NAME?

## UTPA Apartment Housing Contest Rules

The University of Texas-Pan American needs **YOUR HELP** in identifying a name for the new 4.5 million dollar, 216 bed, University apartment complex scheduled to open for student leasing in Fall 2000.



### Contest Entry Requirements:

- Only currently enrolled UTPA students and currently recognized UTPA student organizations are eligible to participate.
- Entry forms are available at the Office of Housing & Campus Life, WRH 2<sup>nd</sup> floor; call 381-3439 for more information.
- Entries cannot include the name of a person; submission of an individual's name as an entry will invalidate the entry.
- All entries are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 18, 2000, at the Office of Housing & Campus Life.
- Entries will be forwarded to the UTPA Campus Facilities Planning Committee (CFPC) for judging. The decision of the CFPC will be final.

A:

1. A \$350.00 UTPA Bookstore Gift Certificate
2. The all new Fall 2000

## UTPA Apartment Housing Community

If special accommodations are needed, contact the Office of Housing & Campus Life at 381-3439 at least five days before the close of the contest so that appropriate accommodations can be made.



# FEBRUARY

**3 ACTIVITY:** The Anthropology Club is hosting two lectures by Dr. Guven Arsebuk, professor of anthropology at the University of Istanbul. Dr. Arsebuk will lecture on the history of Turkey at noon in SBSC 101, and at 7:30 p.m. in the Media Theater.

**4 BASEBALL:** Broncs vs. Louisiana-Monroe at 4 p.m. in the Jody Ramsey Stadium.

**5 BASEBALL:** Broncs vs. Louisiana-Monroe at 1 p.m. in the Jody Ramsey Stadium.

**6 BASEBALL:** Broncs vs. Louisiana-Monroe at 1 p.m. in the Jody Ramsey Stadium.

**7 ACTIVITY:** President Nevarez will sign a proclamation at 11 a.m. the Law Library of the Administration Building as part of "Tolerance Week" sponsored by the Student Government Association.

**8 CLINIC:** Student Health Services is providing free and confidential HIV/AIDS testing and counseling in Emilia Hall from 9 a.m. - noon for students, faculty, staff and community. Ask for Ruben.

**8 ACTIVITY:** The Student Government Association is hosting a silent march from noon - 1 p.m. start-

ing in front of the U.C. Building at 11:50 a.m. as part of "Tolerance Week."

**8 MEETING:** The Anthropology Club is meeting from noon - 1 p.m. in SBSC 117.

**8 MEETING:** The Political Science Association is meeting from noon - 1 p.m. in SBSC 109.

**8 MEETING:** The Pre-Medical/Bio-Medical Society is meeting from noon - 1 p.m. in the Science Building, room 1.288.

**9 ACTIVITY:** The Anthropology Club is holding a bake sale from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the SBSC lobby.

**9 CLINIC:** Student Health Services is providing a women's wellness clinic in Emilia Hall from 9 a.m. - noon with special pricing for students, faculty and staff.

**9 CLINIC:** Student Health Services is providing free and confidential HIV/AIDS testing and counseling in Emilia Hall from 9 a.m. - noon for students, faculty, staff and community. Ask for Ruben.

**9 ACTIVITY:** The Student Government Association is hosting a film festival at 10:30 a.m. U.C. Building as part of "Tolerance Week." The movies featured will be "Do The Right Thing" and "Philadelphia."

**9 ACTIVITY:** The University Program Board is

sponsoring voter registration for students from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in front University Center. The SGA and other student organizations will be helping students fill out registration forms.

**10 ACTIVITY:** The Student Government Association is hosting a panel discussion directed by Assistant Dean David Mariscal with speakers from noon - 1 p.m. starting in the U.C. Building as part of "Tolerance Week."

**10 BASKETBALL:** Lady Broncs vs. Centenary College at 7 p.m. in the Fieldhouse.

**11 BASEBALL:** Broncs vs. Texas A&M at 3 p.m. in the Jody Ramsey Stadium.

## FOR INFORMATION

Art Department ..... 381-2655  
Athletic Department ..... 381-2221  
Folkloric Dance ..... 381-2230  
Intramural office ..... 381-3673  
Music Department ..... 381-3471  
UTPA Theatre ..... 381-3581

If your club or organization has an upcoming campus activity, *The Pan American* would like to post it in this calendar. Send it to COAS 170 by noon Thursday at least one week in advance.

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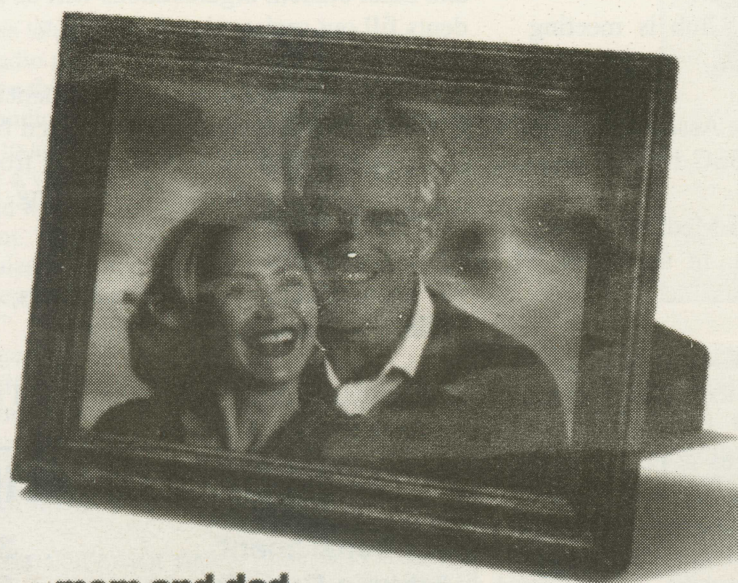
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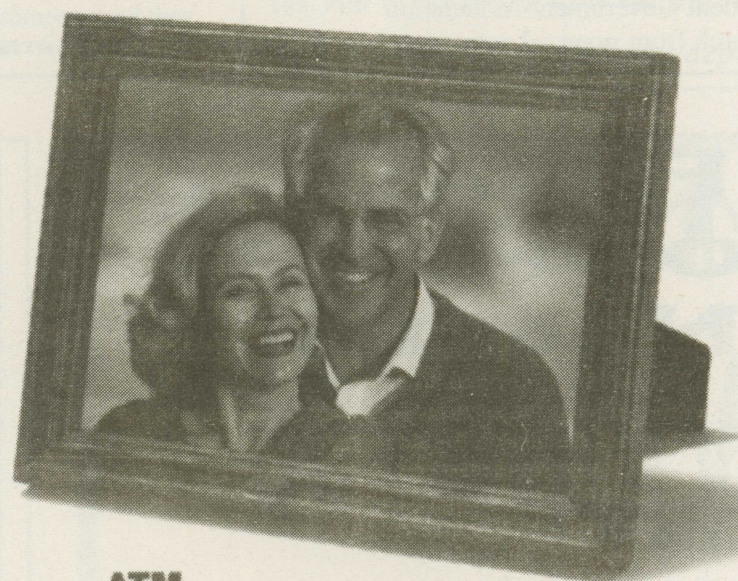
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# Broncs take on local independent team

**Mireya Villareal**

The Pan American

The UTPA Men's basketball team will look for their third win on the road this Saturday when they take on Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, 7:30 p.m. at the Memorial Coliseum.

The Broncs are making a bid to reach .500 and currently have an 8-12 record, with two wins on the road.

The Broncs have just come off a win against Belmont University, their second road game win. Players who have stepped up recently to put points on the score board and grab rebounds off the boards are Brian Merriweather, Watara Banks, Matt Palmquist and John Braxton.

"Gary Booker has done exceptionally well," said Clay Martin, Assistant Coach. "He has been rebounding hard and keeping his fouls to a minimum. He's really picked up his intensity and tenacity."

Despite the recent win against Belmont, the team is not completely sure what to expect from the Texas A&M-Corpus Christi Islanders.

This is the first year the Texas A&M-CC has had a men's basketball program. The team was established in the fall of 1999 and is considered to be a NCAA Division 1 school.

## Bronc Brain Merriweather



Position: Guard

Height: 6-3

Weight: 185

Classification: Jr.

**Last outing:** Scored 21 points against Belmont in 31 minutes of play.

**This season:** Has started all 20 games and is averaging 20.8 ppg.

However, much like UTPA, the Islanders are not included in a conference and have been labeled an Independent team.

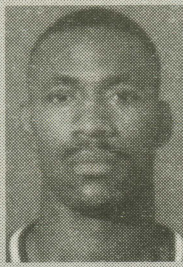
The Texas A&M Islanders are walking into this game with a record of 7-12.

According to Martin, the team is hungry for a win and this will probably be considered "The Battle of the Independents".

Bronc basketball players will need to be wary of Islanders Michael Hicks, Lee Denmon, and Toby Thompson.

Hicks is averaging 19.9 points per game (ppg) and grabbing an average of 8.6 rebounds. Denmon is racking

## Islander Mike Hicks



Position: Forward

Height: 6-5

Weight: 200

Classification: Jr.

**Last outing:** Scored 28 points and 11 rebounds in a victory over Centenary.

**This season:** Is averaging 19.9 ppg and 8.6 rbd, tops on the team.

up an average of 13.7 ppg. While Thompson has 11.6 average ppg.

The Islanders were hoping to continue their season with Aaron Eneas, a top rebounder for the team with an average of 7.2. Eneas is now out for the season due to a broken hand.

"We just have to go into the game and treat them like we treat any other team. We can't under estimate anyone," said Kwasinda Curtis. "We believe strongly that we'll be able to continue winning. I'm just going to try and be consistent and do what I've done all season, step up when the team needs me."

## Additions made to Track & Field Staff

### Sports Information

The UTPA Track and Field program announced the hirings of Emet Wade and Carmel Myers as assistant track and field coaches for the 2000 season on Tuesday.

Wade comes to Edinburg from Southeast Missouri State, where he was a stand-out athlete and assistant coach. Wade was a stand-out on the track for the Indians from 1993-95, competing in the middle distances. He was named All-Ohio Valley Conference for three straight years.

After finishing up his eligibility at Southeast, Wade was a volunteer assistant coach at McCluer High, assisting with both running and field events. He also worked at Southeast as an assistant, helping with the cross country, track and field and football programs.

A native of Missouri, Wade was a standout athlete at McCluer High School in St. Louis from 1989-92. He was named all-state in Missouri for three straight years in track and field and was also an All-Suburban North Conference as a

defensive back for the MHS football team in 1991.

Carmel Myers is in her second season on the coaching staff, her first as a graduate assistant. She served as a volunteer coach in 1999. Myers played an integrate part in helping the Lady Bronc Cross Country team capture two Sun Belt Conference Championships in 1995 and 1997. A three-year letterwinner in track, Myers was named to the 1997-98 Sun Belt Conference Commissioner's List.

She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology in 1998. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in Education. Myers also has a level I certification from USA Track and Field.

Prior to her career at UTPA, Myers was a four-year letterwinner in cross country at LaMarque High School in LaMarque, TX. She was a two-time qualifier for the 4A State Championships in cross country and also became the first female athlete in school history to qualify for the State Championships.

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# Lady Broncs strive for road game win

## Quick Hits

### Sports Information

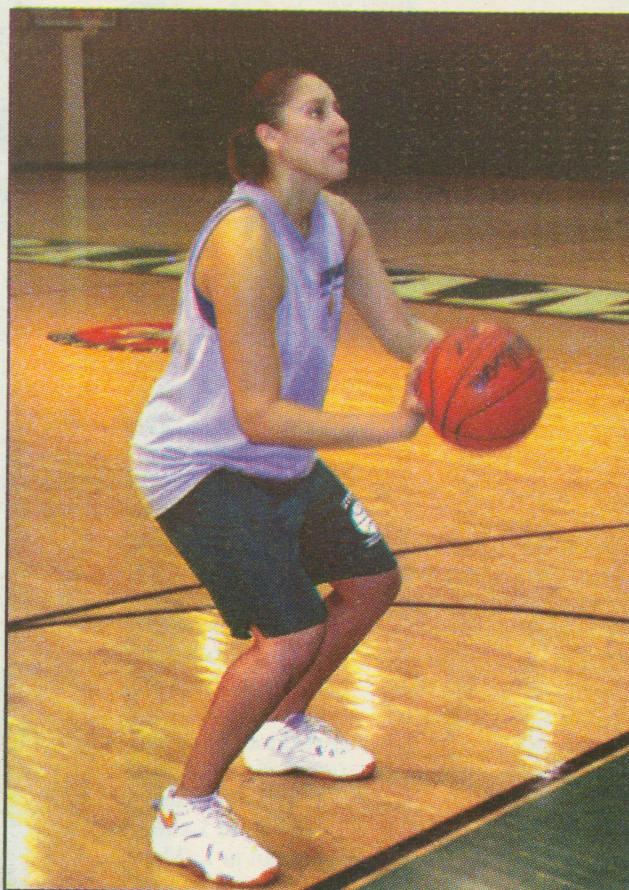
#### Lea Valdez honored

UTPA women's basketball player Lea Valdez was named Independent Women's Basketball Player of the Week for the week of Jan. 24-31.

Valdez, a native of San Antonio, scored 21 of the Lady Broncs 48 points in a 48-40 win over Centenary College. In the game, Valdez had seven steals, tying for the fourth highest single-game total in school history. She also tied for the team lead with five rebounds.

For the season, Valdez is averaging 8.7 points per game (third on the team), 3.1 rebounds, 1.6 steals (second on the team) and 1.1 three-point baskets per game. She has scored in double figures six times, including two games of 20 or more points. She has also started in six of the last seven games.

Valdez and the Lady Broncs will hit the road for Nashville to take on Belmont University Thursday at 6 p.m. UTPA is 4-16, but has won three of its last four games. Belmont is 13-6 and has won three in a row.



Nelson J. Gonzalez/The Pan American

**Lady Bronc Lez Valdez, named Independent Women's Basketball Player of the Week, will guide the team against the Belmont Bruins.**

#### Mireya Villareal

The Pan American

The UTPA Lady Bronc basketball team will try to add another win to their two game winning streak tonight against Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee.

As the women's team prepares to take on the Belmont University Bruins they turn to many of the younger players on the team to step up and take charge on the court.

"I feel positive because we've been playing well without a lot of our upper-class leadership," said Kathy Halligan, Head Coach. "We've put a lot of focus on having a jump and rotate on our defense. If we can manipulate their offense with our defense we feel we will be very successful."

Of the three upper classmen on the team, Erin Buttery, Alexis Williams, and Cheveron Terry, Buttery is the only one who has played in the

most recent games.

Williams has been out with a stress fracture to her right foot since the team's game against Houston Baptist.

Following that game against Houston Baptist, Terry complained of chest pains and has sat out the last three games. Williams will be out indefinitely; however, Terry has been medically cleared and will return to the court tonight against the Bruins.

The absence of these two players have encouraged others on the team to take the initiative and lead the team to victory.

Most recently, Lea Valdez, a freshman out of San Antonio, shone against Centenary College with a 21 point outburst.

Naima Williams has also been able to turn up the heat by continually adding points and rebounds to her teams overall stats. Naima Williams turned in 18 points and 12 rebounds against St. Edwards.

UTPA's newcomers will

have to carefully watch two players coming off the Bruin bench. Jessica Matson has consistently played a major role in the Bruins' 1999-00 basketball season.

Matson has a game average of 11.1 points per game (ppg) 3.3 rebounds. Candice Mitchell takes in an average of 10.3 ppg and 4.1 boards, the highest on the team.

Belmont University's women's basketball team has record of 13-6. The Bruins have been able to win eight of their nine games at home.

"We just have to play a really tight defense. We know that they drive base line all the time, so if we get out their and stop them on defense then our offense will be next," said Naima Williams. "I'm going to step up on defense and play my man as tight as I can so she won't score. Then, from there, on offense I'll just put my shots in."

## Season opener for baseball against Louisiana-Monroe

### Howard begins second year

#### Eladio Jaimez

The Pan American

The men's and women's tennis teams will begin their spring season this weekend. The men will travel to Beaumont to take on Lamar, Centenary, and Texas Southern on Saturday and Sunday. The women will head north to Denton to face the University of North Texas and University of Louisiana-Lafayette.

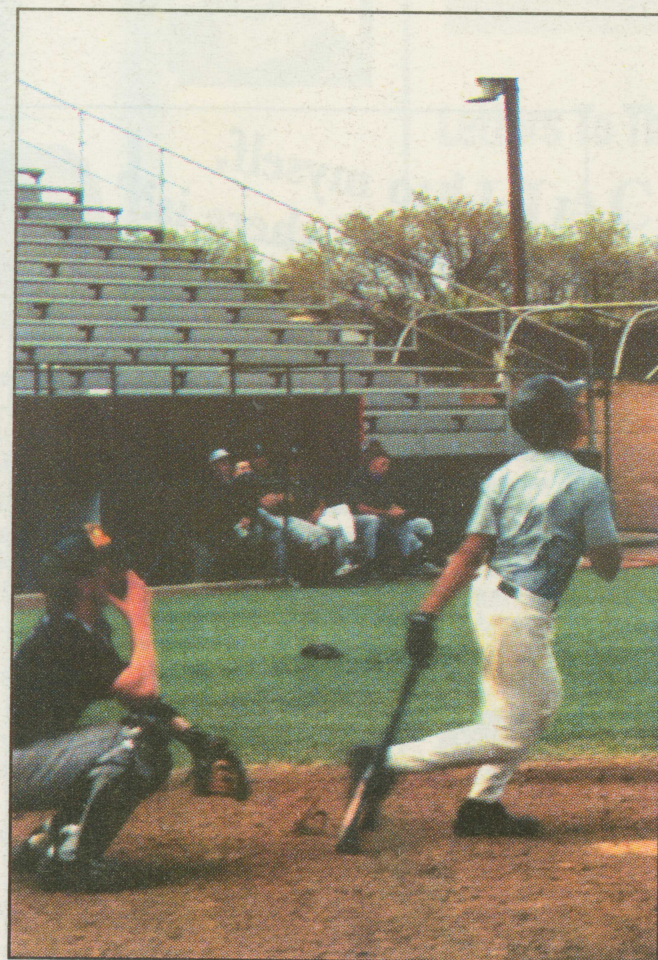
"The girls' team will definitely be inexperienced in the bottom of the lineup," said head coach Scott Howard. "The guys have depth on their team. They are very competitive and should pull us out in front."

Assistant Pedro Perata will travel with the women's team to Denton and the Howard will head to Beaumont with the men.

Sophomore Maria Fernandez will go into the competition as a number one. Either Christine Getchell or Sagnite Garcia will be second.

On the men's side Jorge Cuesta will be number one and Enrique Bastante will go as number two. However, Howard indicates that the men's team is full of talent and the number five could easily compete with number one.

"This is a good team with depth. We have five or six guys that are real close to each other. We should win several matches," said Howard.



Eladio Jaimez/The Pan American

**Jesse Gutierrez looks towards the direction of the ball, during practice. The Broncs are looking to get their season started after it was postponed.**

#### Eladio Jaimez

The Pan American

Head coach Reggie Tredaway and his team will face off against University Louisiana-Monroe (formerly Northeast Louisiana) in a three game series beginning tomorrow at 4 p.m.

Junior Jason Thompson will take the mound for the Broncs in the first game. Junior transfers Mike Calvert and Jason Garcia are slated to start the next two games.

The season opener comes a week after Texas Tech postponed their three game set due to inclement weather, but according to senior rightfielder Andy Wallace only good came out of the delay.

"All the delay did was give us a week to get even better. It let everyone that wasn't completely healthy to get healthy and it gave our pitchers and hitters an extra week to prepare, so it did nothing but help us," said Wallace.

The Broncs take on a team that earned an at-large bid to the NCAA Regionals last season in Baton Rouge after finishing 36-22. The Indians were preseason picks by Collegiate Baseball and Baseball America to win the Southland Conference title.

Tredaway indicates that the Indians are a pitching and defense

minded ball club.

"They haven't played so we don't know what kind of offense they bring, but I know their coach and he has a tendency to pitch well and play good defense," said Tredaway.

ULM coach Smoke Laval returns only 12 players with 23 new faces on his club.

Junior Kenny Holubec is expected to take the mound opening day for the Indians. The southpaw from Houma, La recorded 111 strikeouts with a 7-2 record. He is also a pre-season All-SLC pick.

"We had our pitchers throw breaking pitches to give our hitters the chance to see breaking pitches," said Tredaway.

Junior Jeremy Fletcher will get the nod for the second game and either Kevin Orga or Mike Wombacher will pitch the final game.

Last season Fletcher finished 11-4 at Itawamba Junior College with a 3.09 ERA. Seniors Orga and Wombacher combined for a record of 8-11 last season.

Dusty Hart returns as the top hitter for Tredaway's ball club. Last year the shortstop hit .328 with 13 doubles and six homeruns.

On the Indian's side Ted White returns as their batting champion. White hit .315 with 10 doubles.